IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: L

L. David Chambers

Serial No.:

09/678,338

Filed:

October 3, 2000

Title:

DISTRIBUTED SWITCHING PLATFORM AND

METHOD OF OPERATING THE SAME

Grp./A.U.:

2668

Examiner:

Ahmed Elallam

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 I hereby certify that this correspondence is being electronically filed with United States Patent and trademark Office on:

May 4, 2006 (Date)

Debbie Sams
(Printed or typed name of person signing the certificate)

/Debbie Sams/
(Signature of the person signing the certificate)

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT SUBMITTED WITH RCE UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.114(c)

Before continuing examination of the above-identified application, please refer to the below arguments and amend the claims as indicated.